

## Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 MCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15  
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FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6855  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMCONSUL MUNICH

S E C R E T BELGRADE 4322

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINS, YO, GW  
SUBJECT: FRG TERRORISTS IN YUGOSLAVIA

REF: A) BELGRADE 4151, B) BELGRADE 4180; C) BONN 9927

1. FRG DCM HOFMANN HAS NOW PROVIDED US WITH FURTHER  
BACKGROUND ON THE CURRENT EFFORT TO OBTAIN EXTRADITION OF THE  
FOUR GERMAN TERRORISTS IN YUGOSLAV CUSTODY.

2. FRG AUTHORITIES HAD, IN PAST MONTHS, DEVELOPED A PICTURE  
OF THE RAF TERRORISTS' TRAVEL PATTERN AND TECHNIQUES.  
TRAVELLING COMMONLY TO PRAGUE OR WARSAW IN EASTERN EUROPE  
AND TO ALGIERS, BAGHDAD OR TRIPOLI IN THE MIDDLE EAST, THEY  
TYPICALLY TRANSITTED YUGOSLAVIA, USING THIS COUNTRY TO BREAK  
THE CONTINUITY OF THEIR BOOKED TRAVEL ON THE THEORY THAT THEY WOULD  
ATTRACT LESS ATTENTION AT THEIR DESTINATION IF, FOR EXAMPLE,  
NOT ARRIVING IN PARIS DIRECTLY FROM A LEFTIST ARAB CAPITAL.  
THEY USED ELABORATE MEANS TO SWITCH DOCUMENTATION ENROUTE,  
TYPICALLY USING STOLEN, RATHER THAN FALSE, PASSPORTS.

3. ON THE BASIS OF INFORMATION PASSED TO THE YUGOSLAVS,  
INCLUDING SPECIFIC TIPS, THEY PICKED UP THE FOUR TERRORISTS.

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CURIOUSLY, THEY FIRST NOTIFIED THE GERMANS THAT ONE (WAGNER)  
HAD BEEN ARRESTED AND ONLY AFTER FRG OFFICIALS HAD DISCUSSED  
HIS EXTRADITION, AND HAD BEEN TOLD IN PRELIMINARY FASHION  
OF YUGOSLAV INTEREST IN THE EIGHT CROATIANS IN THE FRG, DID  
THE YUGOSLAVS ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THEY HELD THE THREE OTHERS.

4. OF THE EIGHT, ONLY FOUR OR FIVE WOULD FALL UNDER THE TERMS

OF THE EXTRADITION AGREEMENT. OTHERS ARE WARTIME USTASHI WHO HAD FOUGHT WITH THE NAZIS, GONE WITH THEM TO GERMANY LATE IN THE WAR, AND LONG SINCE GAINED GERMAN NATIONALITY, AND WHO ARE NOT SUBJECT TO EXTRADITION. THIS HAS BEEN MADE CLEAR TO THE YUGOSLAVS. ACCORDING TO HOFMANN, THE GERMANS ARE CONFIDENT THAT THE YUGOSLAVS, RECOGNIZING THAT ONLY FOUR OF THE EIGHT MAY BE EXTRADITED, WILL AGREE TO HAND OVER THE GERMANS IF THOSE FOUR ARE EXTRADITED.

5. HOFMANN CONFIRMED MUCH OF WHAT HAS ALREADY BEEN REPORTED IN BONN 9927 CONCERNING THE TALKS CONDUCTED HERE BY WISCHNIEWSKI. HE ADDED THAT, SINCE THE VISIT THE YUGOSLAVS, WHILE NOT ARRANGING INTERVIEWS WITH THE PRISONERS, HAVE PASSED VARIOUS DOCUMENTS TO THE GERMANS FOR USE IN THEIR PROSECUTION.

6. WITH EXTRADITION PROCEEDINGS UNDERWAY IN THE FRG, AND SINCE THE RESULTS WILL, AT LEAST, BE THE NEXT STEP IN THE SCENARIO, THERE IS NOTHING GOING ON HERE INVOLVING EXTRADITION OF THE GERMANS. EAGLEBURGER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**TAGS:** PINS, YO, GE, CZ  
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